

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET

25X1A

COUNTRY Korea
 SUBJECT Prominent ROK Captives in North Korea
 25X1C
 DATE OF INFO.
 PLACE ACQUIRED

REPORT NO.
 DATE DISTR. 17 December 1953
 NO. OF PAGES 1
 REQUIREMENT NO. RD
 REFERENCES

BY CABLE

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1X

1. CHO Man-sik (2580/2519/2784), former chief of the Choson Democratic Party, is still alive in a North P'yongan Province camp.¹ KIM Tong-won (6855/2639/0337), former vice-chairman of the National Assembly, died of an unknown illness while a captive.²
2. Most other prominent politicians and officials kidnapped by the North Koreans are alive and healthy.
3. During the late summer or early fall of 1953, PAEK Sang-kyu, prominent ROK National Assemblyman, and HYON Sang-yun, president of the Korea University, were seen in a village in Chagang Province.³ They were in good health, seemed to be well treated, were living on a school campus and had plenty of books. They said they might soon return to their homes in the ROK.
4. The family of KU Cha-kwan, chief prosecutor of the Seoul Superior Court who was kidnapped by the communists in June 1950, received a letter from KU which had been written in Peiping.

25X1A

1. [] Comment. According to available information, CHO holds the post of chairman in absentia of the Choson Democratic Party.
2. [] Comment. According to an earlier report, KIM was kidnapped by the North Korean Army and in October 1950 was in a P'yongyang prison.
3. [] Comment. PAEK, who has studied in the United States, and HYON were kidnapped in June 1950 by the communists.

25X1A

25X1

SECRET

STATE Ev # x ARMY # x NAVY # x AIR # x FBI # x AEC # x
 USEMBK# J-2HQSFEC# AFEE# FEAF# COMNAVFE# EIGHTH ARMY# CCRAFE# KCOMZ# FAR#

Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".